

PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO SUPPRESS THE TRIVIAL NAME "NORTONIENSIS" GMELIN, 1789 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE BINOMINAL COMBINATION "FRINGILLA NORTONIENSIS" (CLASS AVES))

**Application submitted by the
Standing Committee on Ornithological Nomenclature of the
International Ornithological Congress**

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)527)

Covering letter, with enclosure, dated 19th October, 1950, from Colonel R. Meinertzhagen, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Ornithological Nomenclature

As Chairman of the Standing Committee on Ornithological Nomenclature, I beg to forward to you the annexed recommendation relating to the name *Fringilla nortoniensis* Gmelin, 1789, for favour of decision by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

The circumstances of the present case were described by Dr. E. Stresemann, a Member of the Standing Committee, in a paper entitled "Birds collected in the North Pacific Area during Capt. James Cook's last Voyage (1778 and 1779)," published in 1949 (Stresemann, 1949, *Ibis* **91** : 252), an extract from which is given in the Annexe to the application now submitted.

The specific action which the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is asked to take in this case is : (1) that it should use its plenary powers to suppress the trivial name *nortoniensis* Gmelin, 1789 (as published in the combination *Fringilla nortoniensis*) for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy ; (2) place the trivial name *pyrrhulinus* Swinhoe, 1876 (as published in the combination *Emberiza pyrrhulinus*) on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*, and (3) place the trivial name *nortoniensis* Gmelin, 1789 (as published in the combination *Fringilla nortoniensis*), as proposed, in (1) above, to be suppressed under the plenary powers, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*.

ENCLOSURE

The trivial name comprised in the specific name "Fringilla nortoniensis" Gmelin, 1789

It is recommended that the trivial name (*nortoniensis*) comprised in the specific name *Fringilla nortoniensis* Gmelin, 1789 (in Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 13) **1**(2) : 922) be made a *nomen rejectum* and that the trivial name (*pyrrhulina*) comprised in the name currently accepted for this species, namely

Emberiza pyrrhulinus Swinhoe, 1876, *Ibis* (3) 5 : 333, pl. VIII, fig. 2 ("Hakodati") be made a *nomen conservandum*.

The trivial name *pyrrhulinus* Swinhoe, 1876, has been in continuous use for three quarters of a century, while the name *nortoniensis* Gmelin, 1789, has been completely overlooked. The introduction of Gmelin's long-forgotten name *nortoniensis* would give rise to confusion and would be open to strong objection.

Attached to the present application is an extract from a paper by Dr. E. Stresemann published in 1949 (*Ibis* 91 : 252) in which the trivial name *nortoniensis* Gmelin was first synonymised with *pyrrhulinus* Swinhoe.

R. MEINERTZHAGEN : *Chairman of the Standing Committee.*

E. STRESEMANN : *Zoologisches Museum der Universität, Berlin.*

JOHN T. ZIMMER : *The American Museum of Natural History, New York.*

ANNEXE TO APPLICATION

Extract from a paper entitled "Birds collected in the North Pacific Area during Capt. James Cook's last Voyage (1778 and 1779)" (Stresemann, 1949, "Ibis" 91 : 244-255)

[The birds discussed in the above paper are grouped by reference to the localities in which they were observed, and the dates on which these localities were visited on Captain Cook's voyage. The bird dealt with in the present application is discussed in the tenth of these groups which is lettered "J." and is concerned with birds observed in Kamschatka.]

J. KAMTSCHATKA : 28th April to 4th June, 1779 and 24th August to 9th October, 1779.

- (1) [*Emberiza schoeniclus pyrrhulinus* Swinhoe, 1876] *Fringilla nortoniensis* Gmelin, 1(2) : 922 (1789), ex "Norton Finch," Pennant, 2 : 376. "Discovered in Norton Sound." Locality wrong. The specimen described by Pennant is a male in fresh autumn plumage (lacking the outermost pair of tail feathers) of the Kamschatka race of the Reed Bunting.